



Complete Summary

TITLE

Immunizations: percent of applicable spinal cord injury and disorders (SCI&D) veterans receiving influenza immunization between September 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009 in accordance with defined VHA policy.

SOURCE(S)

Office of Quality Performance. FY 2009, Q2 technical manual for the VHA performance measurement system. Washington (DC): Veterans Health Administration; 2009 Jan 5. various p.

Measure Domain

PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Process

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Does not apply to this measure

Brief Abstract

DESCRIPTION

This measure is used to assess the percent of applicable spinal cord injury and disorders (SCI&D) veterans receiving influenza immunization between September 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009 in accordance with defined Veterans Health Administration (VHA) policy.

RATIONALE

Respiratory impairments are the leading cause of death and leading causes of morbidity in the spinal cord injury and disorders (SCI&D) population. Except for the most caudal levels of injury (or very incomplete injuries), respiratory muscles are weak, cough is ineffective, and there are autonomic changes that lead to a much higher incidence of respiratory diseases in this population. Influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations reduce risk of respiratory complications and death.

Historically, vaccination rates in the Veterans Affairs (VA) SCI&D population were low. Thus, the primary objective of this preventive care measure is to increase vaccination rates for influenza and pneumococcal pneumonia in the VA SCI&D population.

PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT

Influenza immunization; spinal cord injury and disorders (SCI&D)

DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION

Eligible spinal cord injury and disorders (SCI&D) inpatient and outpatient veterans sampled (see the related "Denominator Inclusions/Exclusions" field in the Complete Summary)

NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION

Eligible veterans receiving influenza immunizations from September 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 (see the related "Numerator Inclusions/Exclusions" field in the Complete Summary)

Evidence Supporting the Measure

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE CRITERION OF QUALITY

- A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical evidence

Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Overall poor quality for the performance measured

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Office of Quality Performance. FY 2009, Q2 technical manual for the VHA performance measurement system. Washington (DC): Veterans Health Administration; 2009 Jan 5. various p.

State of Use of the Measure

STATE OF USE

Current routine use

CURRENT USE

External oversight/Veterans Health Administration
Internal quality improvement

Application of Measure in its Current Use

CARE SETTING

Ambulatory Care
Hospitals
Physician Group Practices/Clinics

PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE

Advanced Practice Nurses
Nurses
Physicians

LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED

Single Health Care Delivery Organizations

TARGET POPULATION AGE

Unspecified

TARGET POPULATION GENDER

Either male or female

STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

Unspecified

ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

BURDEN OF ILLNESS

Unspecified

UTILIZATION

Unspecified

COSTS

Unspecified

Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM CARE NEED

Living with Illness
Staying Healthy

IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness

Data Collection for the Measure

CASE FINDING

Users of care only

DESCRIPTION OF CASE FINDING

Eligible spinal cord injury and disorders (SCI&D) inpatient and outpatient veterans sampled

DENOMINATOR SAMPLING FRAME

Patients associated with provider

DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

Eligible spinal cord injury and disorders (SCI&D) inpatient and outpatient veterans sampled

Exclusions

- Veterans with an egg allergy and, in fiscal year (FY) 09, veterans with a latex allergy (some facilities ordered individual dose flu vaccine syringes with latex product that could cause a reaction in those sensitive to latex)
- Documented hospice veterans or veterans with life expectancy less than 6 months

RELATIONSHIP OF DENOMINATOR TO NUMERATOR

All cases in the denominator are equally eligible to appear in the numerator

DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT

Clinical Condition
Encounter
Institutionalization

DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW

Time window brackets index event

NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS**Inclusions**

Eligible veterans receiving influenza immunizations* from September 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009

**Influenza Immunization:* If the patient reports influenza immunization was obtained privately, data recorded in progress note, on problem list, or historical event in Computerized Patient Record System (CPRS) as health factor that immunization was received elsewhere is acceptable. Documentation should include month and year if possible, at a minimum 'fall or autumn' and year.

Exclusions

Unspecified

MEASURE RESULTS UNDER CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR POLICYMAKERS

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW

Fixed time period

DATA SOURCE

Administrative data
Medical record

LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY

Individual Case

PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED

Unspecified

Computation of the Measure

SCORING

Rate

INTERPRETATION OF SCORE

Better quality is associated with a higher score

ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Unspecified

STANDARD OF COMPARISON

Internal time comparison

Evaluation of Measure Properties

EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING

Unspecified

Identifying Information

ORIGINAL TITLE

Influenza vaccination.

MEASURE COLLECTION

[Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2009: Veterans Health Administration \(VHA\) Performance Measurement System](#)

MEASURE SET NAME

[Performance Measures](#)

MEASURE SUBSET NAME

[Immunizations \(SCI&D\)](#)

DEVELOPER

Veterans Health Administration

FUNDING SOURCE(S)

Unspecified

COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP THAT DEVELOPED THE MEASURE

Unspecified

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Unspecified

ADAPTATION

Measure was not adapted from another source.

RELEASE DATE

2009 Jan

MEASURE STATUS

This is the current release of the measure.

SOURCE(S)

Office of Quality Performance. FY 2009, Q2 technical manual for the VHA performance measurement system. Washington (DC): Veterans Health Administration; 2009 Jan 5. various p.

MEASURE AVAILABILITY

The individual measure, "Influenza Vaccination," is published in "FY 2009, Q2 Technical Manual for the VHA Performance Measurement System."

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NQMC STATUS

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on January 8, 2010. The information was verified by the measure developer on March 22, 2010.

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